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**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Kremmling Field Office
P.O. Box 68
Kremmling, CO 80459**

DOCUMENTATION OF LAND USE PLAN CONFORMANCE AND NEPA ADEQUACY

NUMBER: DOI-BLM-CO-120-2010-0015-DNA

PROJECT NAME: Transfer and 10 year renewal of livestock grazing permit # 0501732 that authorizes livestock grazing on Allotment 07583 (Cottonwood Creek) from James Ellison to Conrad Sterkel.

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: T. 9 N., R. 79 W., Section 2: S½NW

APPLICANT: Conrad Sterkel

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION: Conrad Sterkel has leased his base property and livestock grazing preference on Allotment 07583 (Cottonwood Creek) to James Ellison since 2005. James Ellison has left the area and requested cancellation of the remainder of his current lease. Also, the 10 year livestock grazing permit # 0501732 expires on February 28, 2010. This DNA would renew livestock grazing permit # 0501732 for a period of 10 years and transfer the base property and livestock grazing preference on Allotment 07583 (Cottonwood Creek) back to Conrad Sterkel. Conrad Sterkel is the owner of the base property.

LAND USE PLAN (LUP) CONFORMANCE REVIEW: The Proposed Action is subject to the following plan:

Name of Plan: Kremmling Resource Management Plan (RMP), Record of Decision (ROD)

Date Approved: December 19, 1984; Updated February 1999

The Proposed Action is in conformance with the LUP, even though it is not specifically provided for, because it is clearly consistent with the following LUP decisions (objectives, terms, and conditions):

Decision Language: Objectives of the RMP/ROD include allocation of a base level of livestock forage and maintaining or improving forage production and

condition in areas where livestock grazing is a priority or is compatible with the land use priority. Allotment 07583 (Cottonwood Creek) was designated with a wildlife priority. Livestock grazing is compatible with this designation.

REVIEW OF EXISTING NEPA DOCUMENTS:

List by name and date all existing NEPA documents that cover the Proposed Action.

Name of Document: CO-120-2008-35-DNA

James Ellison Lease Renewal # 0501732 with Conrad Sterkel on Allotment 07583 (Cottonwood Creek)

Date Approved: July 3, 2008

Name of Document: CO-120-2004-47-CER

Sterkel to Ellison Grazing Transfer

Date Approved: February 2, 2005

Name of Document: CO-KRFO-00-36-EA

0501732 Conrad and Phyllis Sterkel

Date Approved: September 12, 2000

NEPA Adequacy Criteria	Yes	No
<p>1. Is the Proposed Action substantially the same action and at the site specifically analyzed in an existing document?</p> <p>Explanation: There have been no changes to the number or kind of livestock, season of use, or amount of livestock grazing preference.</p>	X	
<p>2. Was a reasonable range of alternatives to the Proposed Action analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s), and does that range and analysis appropriately consider current environmental concerns, interests, and resource values?</p> <p>Explanation: A reasonable range of alternatives were analyzed during the 2000 permit renewal process. No changes to the grazing system have occurred since that time.</p>	X	
<p>3. Does the information or circumstances upon which the existing NEPA document(s) are based remain valid and germane to the Proposed Action? Is the analysis still valid in light of new studies or resource assessment information?</p> <p>Explanation: No changes to the livestock grazing have been</p>	X	

implemented since the original EA was approved. Monitoring since approval of the grazing system has shown that no deterioration of the vegetation resource has occurred.		
<p>4. Does the methodology and analytical approach used in the existing NEPA document(s) continue to be appropriate for the Proposed Action?</p> <p>Explanation: There have been no changes to the methodology and analytical approach since the original NEPA analysis was approved.</p>	X	
<p>5. Are the direct and indirect impacts that would result from implementation of the Proposed Action unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document?</p> <p>Explanation: The direct and indirect impacts would be the same under the implementation of the Proposed Action because no changes to the livestock grazing have occurred since the original NEPA documents were approved.</p>	X	
<p>6. Are the cumulative impacts that would result from implementation of the Proposed Action unchanged from those analyzed in the existing NEPA document(s)?</p> <p>Explanation: The cumulative impacts would be the same since the livestock grazing is the same as when the original NEPA documents were approved.</p>	X	
<p>7. Is the public involvement and interagency review associated with the existing NEPA document(s) adequate for the Proposed Action?</p> <p>Explanation: The public involvement and interagency review in the existing NEPA documents is adequate for the Proposed Action.</p>	X	

INTERDISCIPLINARY REVIEW:

Name	Title	Area of Responsibility	Date Review Completed
Bill B. Wyatt	Staff Archaeologist	Archaeology/Tribal Consultation	11/24/09
Paula Belcher	Hydrologist	Soil, Water, Air, and Riparian	1/05/2010
Megan McGuire	Wildlife Biologist	T&E Species	12/9/2009
Frank Rupp	Staff Archeologist	Paleontology	12/08/2009

REMARKS:

Cultural Resources: All undertakings will require a cultural resource inventory in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, Section 106 prior to implementation to determine if historic properties would be affected.

Native American Religious Concerns: Native American consultation will be conducted for each undertaking prior to implementation to identify traditional spiritual places.

Threatened and Endangered Species: The proposed renewal would not impact Endangered, Threatened, or Sensitive Species.

MITIGATION: None

COMPLIANCE PLAN: Compliance with the renewed livestock grazing permit and its associated terms and conditions would be accomplished through the Kremmling Field Office Range Management Program. Livestock grazing would be monitored by the range staff and other area personnel, as appropriate, to ensure compliance. The Kremmling Field Office Range Monitoring Plan would be used to schedule periodic utilization checks, collect trend data, and evaluate allotment condition. When activity plans have been developed covering an allotment, monitoring methods and schedules included in them would be applied to the allotment. Changes would be made to the permit, based on monitoring, when changes are determined necessary to protect land health.

NAME OF PREPARER: Richard Johnson

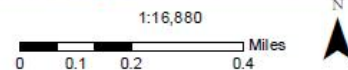
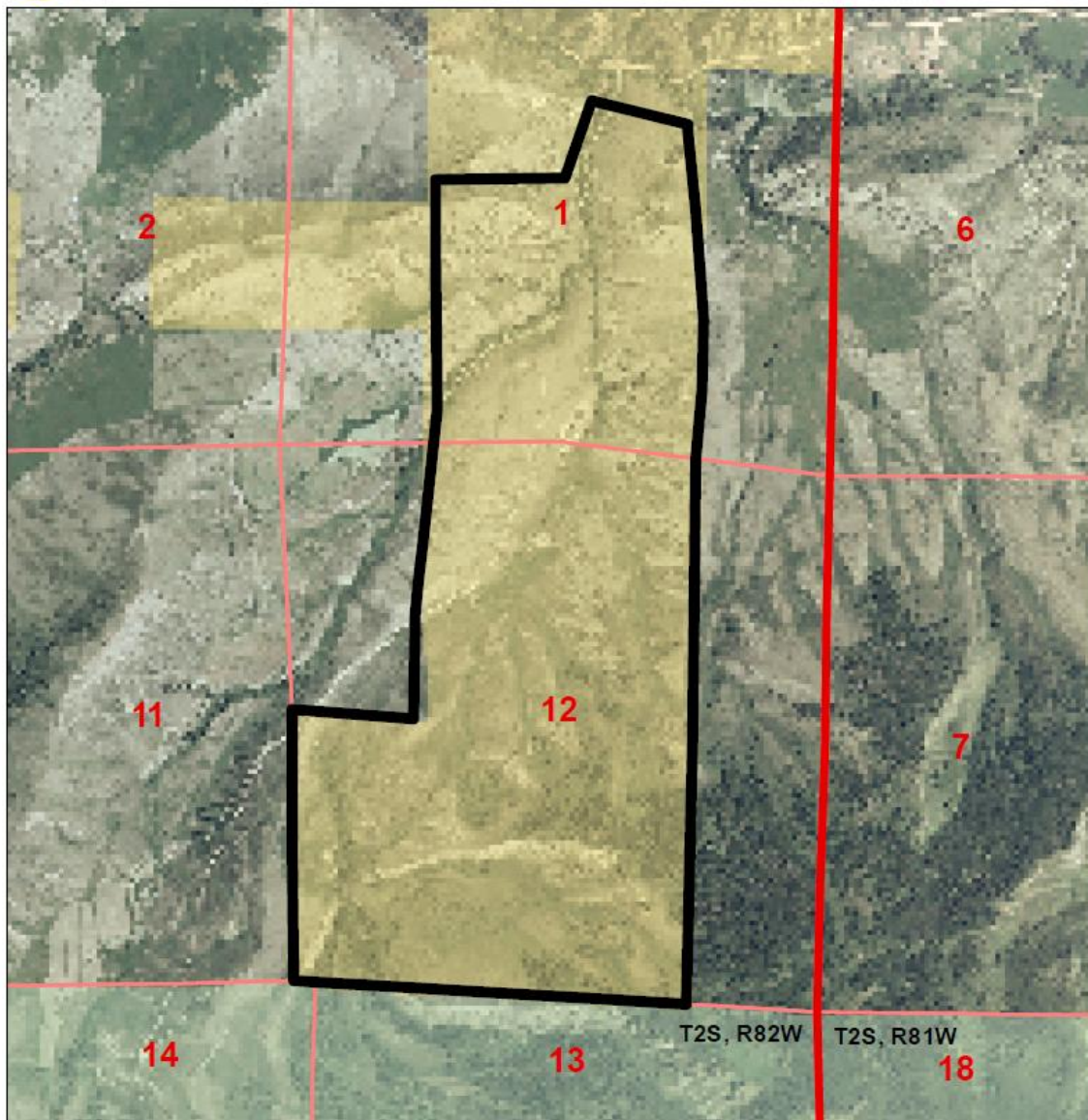
NAME OF ENVIRONMENTAL COORDINATOR: Peter A. McFadden

ATTACHMENTS:

Livestock Grazing Permit # 0501782 with standard terms and conditions.



Allotment 07583 Cottonwood Creek



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Richard Johnson 12/02/09
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CONCLUSION

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Based on the review documented above, I conclude that this proposal conforms to the land use plan and that the NEPA documentation previously prepared fully covers the Proposed Action and constitutes BLM's compliance with the requirements of NEPA.

SIGNATURE OF RESPONSIBLE OFFICIAL: /s/ Peter McFadden

DATE SIGNED: 1/7/09

Note: The signed Conclusion on this worksheet is part of an interim step in the BLM's internal decision process and does not constitute an appealable decision.